Attorney Docket: S300-9901-013C

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

ARTHUR J. SHRADER

Group Art Unit: 3728

Parent Application Examiner: Luan K. Bui

Serial Number: 09,434,792

Parent Application

Filed: November 5, 1999

For: PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION FOR IMPROVED HYGIENE

DIVISIONAL APPLICATION

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted with this Preliminary Amendment there are included forms and filing fee for filing a Divisional Application directed to the subject matter of Figure 10 as filed in the parent application referenced above, now granted as United States Patent 6,311,840. In the present Divisional Application, please add the following claim which is directed to the description of Figure 10 as set forth at Column 6, lines 41-45 of United States Patent 6,311,840 (the parent case).

--25. A method of improving personal hygiene through personally identifying beverages in a container having a major exposed surface comprising:

- (a) disposing on said major surface an array of normally closed indicia-representing and identifying penetrable apertures; and
- (b) correlating said container with identity of a user by marking a selected one of said apertures. --

A | Clean Copy | of Claim 25 is included as an Annex to this preliminary amendment. It is entitled | ANNEX TO PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT - CLEAN SET OF CLAIMS | .

Please amend this divisional application by canceling all claims other than Claim 25. Please also insert in the first sentence following the title of the Application the following:—
This is a division of Application No. 09/434,792, filed November 5, 1999, now United States Patent No. 6,311,840.—

Claim 25 is identified as Group III and is readable on Figure 10.

If anything further is needed to complete filing of this Divisional Application, please advise the undersigned.

Respectfully,

January **22**, 2002

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the above-noted paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class

mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D. C. 20231 on 100, 2002.

Harold Levine

Attorney Docket: S300-9901-013C

Inventor: Arthur J. Shrader

ANNEX TO PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT CLEAN SET OF CLAIMS

- 25. A method of improving personal hygiene through personally identifying beverages in a container having a major exposed surface comprising:
- (a) disposing on said major surface an array of normally closed indicia-representing and identifying penetrable apertures; and
- (b) correlating said container with identity of a user by marking a selected one of said apertures. --

Attorney Docket: \$300-9901-010 Inventor, Arthur J. Shrader

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A personal identification method and system for improving personal hygiene in which provision is made for identifying a beverage, food product, or the line, with a particular person so that another person, does not inadvertently access the identified item unintentionally. Identifying indicia such as numbers or alphabetical letters are selectable and conditioned by the user to be prominently displayed on the item so as to identify it with the individual involved. For necked proverage containers, in one embodiment, a re-usable snap-on display device, or assembly, is conventional to snap onto the neck of the container; in another embodiment, the existing conventional cap-attaching ring is modified to include alpha-numeric indicia and/or to receive a cooperating indicia-indicating display element. For beverage cans, a wandl-like element portraying selectable alpha-numeric indicia is attached to the conventional snap ring opener; and for boxed beverages, a plurality of selectable identifying apertures are provided so that the user can personally distinguish his or her beverage from those of others